ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

SELECTMEN, TREASURER

AND

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

OF THE

TOWN OF MERRIMACK,

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR

ENDING MARCH, 1876.

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SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

Newton McClure, breaking roads, . .	$6 40
Henry T. I Blood, " " . .	8 50
Smith E. Fields, " " . .	18 76
Charles L. Knight, " " . .	6 76
Andrew Savage, repairing highways, .	22 80
Henry T. I. Blood, " " . .	19 00
Rufus Blood, " " . .	26 23
Lemuel Fuller, " " . .	17 00
Isaac Fitts, " " . .	75 00
Isaac Fitts, " " . .	10 60
Alex. McC. Wilkins, " " . .	29 90
Alex. McC. Wilkins, breaking roads, .	5 90
Albert A. Junkins, " " . .	18 62
Charles E. Humphrey, " " . .	35 12
John French, " " . .	13 05
Hazen G. Dodge, " " . .	8 40
Hazen G. Dodge, repairing highways, .	18 00
Aaron Mears, " " . .	83 70
Isaac Fitts, on Senter's new road, . .	21 00
Alex. McC. Wilkins, repairing highways,	6 00
Joseph Fisher, " " .	8 32
Joseph Fisher, " " .	20 00
James Welch, repairing highways near Senter's, ...	8 32
Frank E. Hill, repairing highways near Senter's, ...	6 80

Richard H. Senter, repairing highways near Senter's, ...	$16 00
Samuel Fuller, repairing higways near Senter's, ...	3 00
Joseph Fisher, repairing highways near Fisher's, ...	13 50
Charles L. Knight, repairing highways near Senter's, ...	34 60
Charlas W. Dutton, repairing highways near Senter's, ...	8 00
Reuben Melvin, repairing highways near Senter's, ...	3 50
Reuben Barns, repairing highways near Senter's, ...	25 00
Amasa Estey, repairiug highways near Senter's, ...	4 00
John L. Spalding, repairing highways near Senter's, ...	80 00
J. H. Foster, repairing highways near Senter's, ...	27 00
Ezra D. Franklin, repairing highways near Senter's, ...	31 00
Frank E. Nesmith, repairing highways near Senter's, ...	43 00
Thomas J. Foster, work on Severus Bridge	3 00
Hartwell Greene, " " " .	3 75
S. D. Chandler, for culvert pipe, . .	13 50
Isaac Fitts cash paid on McGilvery's culvert, ...	22 25
Josiah Severus, snowing bridge, . .	3 75
Charles L. Knight, balance of tax list, .	21 40
H. Scott Fields, repairing highways, .	20 00
Reuben Barnes, " " .	42 50
Henry A. Lawrence, " " . .	14 20
L. W. Parker, " " .	1 50
Reuben Barns, repairing highways, ballence of list, ...	21 25

John French, repairing highways, . .	$$4 20	
Walter Reed, " " . .	30 00	
Joseph Fisher, " " . .	1 50	
David Lund, breaking roads, . . .	1 50	
Elijah P. Parkhurst, breaking roads, .	15 35	
Sanders Simons, " " . .	14 68	
John L. Spalding, " " . .	5 00	
Reuben Melvin, " " . .	8 60	
Reuben Barns, " " . .	7 00	
George W. Moulton, for bridge plank, .	68 00	
Benjamin Hartshorn, breaking roads, .	3 00	
William H. Eayres, " " . .	6 40	
George F. Spalding, breaking roads and repairing, ...	33 29	
John H. McAffee, repairing highways, .	2 40	
John L. Spalding, " " .	15 25	
Hugh McKeene, building culvert, . .	12 50	
Hugh McKeene, breaking roads, . .	7 70	
Tristam F. Palmer, " " . .	5 40	
J. B. Elliott, mending scraper, . . .	2 00	
John Goodwin, snowing Turkey Hill Bridge, ...	1 00	
George C. Ingalls, breaking roads, . .	3 00	
Isaac Fitts, repairing highways and money paid out, ...	13 40	
Aaron Mears, repairing highways, . .	10 80	
Calvin Clement, " " . .	11 90	
Albert B. Corliss, " " . .	2 00	
Henry B. Harris, " " . .	7 00	
A. McC. Wilkins, " " . .	3 00	
	——	$1,245 25

FOR THE TOWN'S POOR.

Noel D. Morey, for Ebenezer Boyson's board, ...	$14 00	
Noel D. Morey, for Ebenezer Boyson's board, ...	17 75	
Lucinda Smith, aid from the Town, . .	19 50	
Lucinda Smith, " " . .	19 50	
Lucinda Smith, " " . .	19 50	
Lucinda Smith, " " . .	19 50	
Maria M. Emerson, for Mehitable Patterson's board, ...	29 00	
Maria M. Emerson, for Mehitable Patterson's board, ...	26 00	
Isaac Fitts, aid to J. C. Parker, Boyson and Henderson, ...	23 28	
Samuel C. Anderson, goods delivered to J C. Parker, ...	27 00	
Reuben Melvin, for wood drawn J.C.Parker,	2 40	
John E. Morse, taking care of lobby, .	25 00	
William P. Lawrence, taking care of lobby,	11 06	
Charles J. Senter, clothing for Ebenezer Boyson, ...	9 76	
N. Y. Oliver, goods delivered to C. J. Parker, ...	4 00	
John E. Morse, taking care of lockup, .	7 70	
		$274 95

FOR THE COUNTY POOR.

William Wilson, taking care of crazy man,	$5 00
N. Y. Oliver, goods delivered to Iredale family, ...	6 14

N. Y. Oliver, goods delivered to Henderson family, ...	7 79
N. Y. Oliver, goods delivered to Henderson family, ...	18 43
N. Y. Oliver, goods delivered to Henderson family, ...	29 47
Joseph Iredale, for nursing Henderson family, ...	20 00
Harrison Eaton, doctoring County paupers,	34 50
Harrison Eaton, doctoring Iredale family,	7 75
George B. Griffin, goods delivered to J. B. Fields, ...	17 00
George B. Griffin, goods delivered to J. B. Fields, ...	6 00
George B. Griffin, goods delivered to J. B. Fields, ...	8 75
George B. Griffin, goods delivered to J. B. Fields, ...	30 00
Samuel C. Anderson, goods delivered J. B. Fields, ...	11 12
George F. Spalding, goods delivered J. B. Fields, ...	25 00
David T. Jones, wood for J. B. Fields, .	6 00
George W. Thayer, shoes for J. B. Fields,	7 50
J. R. Weston, cloth for J. B. Fields, .	7 74
A. B. Corliss, carrying Fields girl to Manchester, ...	2 00
Isaac Fitts, carrying Fields girl to County Farm, ...	5 00
Isaac Fitts, aid to Ebenezer Blodgett, .	$ 5 00
George F. Spaulding, aid to County Paupers, ...	20 00
Charles L. Knight, aid to County Paupers,	7 87
John E. Morse, going to Field's to take them to County Farm, . . .	3 00
Frank P. Jones, funeral expenses for Henderson child, ...	6 50

Reuben H. Pratt, boarding Henderson boy,	$11 00	
Calvin Clemant, " " "	11 00	
Richardson Chever, digging grave for Charles Goodwin, ...	1 00	
Rockwood Bros., coffins for County Paupers, ...	16 20	
Frank P. Jones, cost of trial of Iredale, .	11 92	
Frank P. Jones, cost of trial of Mrs. McGuire, ...	11 92	
Isaac Fitts, boarding James Garvin nine weeks, ...	13 50	
S. C. Anderson, goods delivered to J. B. Frieze, ...	10 00	
N. Y. Oliver, goods delivered to Henderson family, ...	3 97	
George B. Griffin, goods delivered to J. B. Fields, ...	7 50	
	——	$395 57

GENERAL EXPENSES.

Campbell & Hanscom, printing Report, check-list, blanks, &c. . . .	$56 00
S. N. Bell, professional services, . .	10 00
Lafayette N. Parker, cash paid out, .	17 27
Samuel Marsh, damage done to sleigh, .	1 50
E. C. Colby, damage done to sleigh, .	1 00
J. L. Spalding, services as Committee of Districts, ...	5 00
Isaac Fitts, cash paid for bills against town and monuments for town line, .	13 27
Isaac Fitts, books, stationery, and cash paid out, ...	18 81
Isaac Fitts, expenses to Concord, . .	1 80
Isaac Fitts, services for the town, . .	168 00

Isaac Fitts, services of horse, . . .	25 00	
Carmi M. Parker, for Committee on Gage fund, ...	58 95	
Francis A. Gordon, for auditing accounts,	2 00	
Horace W. Nilson, " " .	2 00	
John Wheeler, for damage done fence, .	5 00	
Artemas Knight, services for town, . .	140 00	
Artemas Knight, services of horse for town and cash paid, ...	20 42	
Abner C. Darrah, services for the town, .	106 00	
Abner C. Darrah, services of horse for the town, ...	22 00	
John L. Spalding, as School Superintendent	30 00	
James N. B. Fuller, discount on taxes, .	129 15	
James N. B. Fuller, in part for collecting taxes, ...	40 00	
Benjamin Ela, salary as Town Clerk, .	33 29	
Matthew P. Nichols, Superinding School Committee, ...	30 00	
Matthew P. Nichols, salary as Town Treasurer, ...	40 00	
Frank P. Jones, services as Janitor Town-Hall, ...	10 25	
		$986 71

ABATEMENTS.

Alfred A. Woodward, for error in tax, .	$3 71	
Lucy A. Wright, over-assessment, . . .	4 56	
Amasa Estey, over-assessments and tax contested, ...	30 00	
Francis A. Gordon, school house tax in District No. 4, ...	2 21	
Daniel S. Perkins, over-assessment, .	3 10	
George B. Griffin, abatement of dog tax	1 00	
		$44 58

RECAPITULATION.

Highways,	$1,245 25	
Town poor,	274 95	
County poor,	395 57	
General expenses,	435 42	
Town officers,	551 29	
Abatements,	44 58	
		$2,947 06

The past has been a year of prosperity and success. Your roads have been kept in as good condition as in years past. Very small damages have been paid in consequence of defective highways. There has been a suit brought against the town by Freeman Hill, for damages for throwing up the old road running through a part of the Aaron Gage farm, which has been referred to the commissioners.

The Turkey Hill Bridge must be shingled the coming season. The Souhegan Bridge appears to be safe for the present, but you must be prepared to replace it with a new one soon. Persons receiving aid from the town are but eight in number, although there are many more receiving aid from the county.

Your taxes are nearly all collected, and your town is $128.00 above board, with five thousand of bridge plank on hand, and your Selectmen have thought it prudent to keep a fund in the bank for the convenience of your Treasurer.

The Tomb which you instructed us to build if we thought best, we have delayed in consequence of failure to obtain stone satisfactorily, although it could have been built 8 feet by 14 feet for the amount appropriated, and a smaller one would have cost nearly as much. (We thought we had better pay our town debt this year), and we therefore turn it over to the Board of next year to deal with, in the belief that they could act under authority of your vote of last annual meeting.

Your Town Hall, by a vote of the town, has been let without profit to our citizens, (except when it was used for the purpose of making money), and people from out of town hiring it, pay a profit to the town, and all public meetings are chargeable to the town.

Your Selectmen appointed a janitor who receives all money for its use, and pays out all necessary money for its supplies.

Hall let chargeable to the town, ...	$24 25
" credited "	14 00
Balance against the town, ...	$10 25

Most respectfully submitted,

ISAAC FITTS,
ARTEMUS WRIGHT,
A. C. DARRAH,
Selectmen of Merrimack.

MERRIMACK, March 1, 1876.

We have examined the foregoing report of the Selectmen and find it correctly and properly vouched.

H. W. WILSON,
F. A. GORDON,
Auditors.

MERRIMACK, March 1, 1876.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Town of Merrimack in Account with M. P. Nichols, Treas.

			Cr.
Balance in treasury, March 1, 1875, . .	$210 62		
Cash received of State Treasurer, Railroad tax, ...	953 55		
Cash received of State Treasurer, Savings Bank tax, ...	1,669 57		
Cash received of State Treasurer, Literary Fund, ...	97 61		
Cash received of George Drew, for note and interest, ...	64 70		
Cash received of J. N. B. Fuller, collected on tax list for 1875, ...	4,690 78		
Cash received of County for support of paupers, ...	334 03		
Cash received of Samuel Merrill for poll tax, ...	1 02		
Cash received of J. N. B. Fuller, collected interest on taxes collected, . . .	10 33		
		$8,032	21
			Dr.
Paid orders drawn in 1874, ...	$184 32		
Orders drawn during current year of 1875, ...	2,794 90		
Agents for several school districts, 1875, ...	1,595 68		

Paid Balance due school district No. 5, in 1874,	$1 28	
Balance due school district No. 12, in 1873,	4 92	
Balance due school district No. 3, in 1874,	127 08	
Balance due school district No. 6, in 1874,	70 09	
State Treasurer, State tax in 1875,	1,604 00	
County Treasurer, County tax, in 1875,	826 08	
School House tax in District No. 4, in 1875,	74 00	
Chas. H. Fitts, note and interest,	432 48	
Cash deposited in the Manchester Savings Bank,	300 00	
Cash on hand March 1, 1876,	17 38	
		$8,032 21

FINANCIAL STANDING OF THE TOWN MARCH 1, 1876.

LIABILITIES.

Balance of School House tax due District No. 3,	$9 50	
Note due Eliza Wilson, and bal. interest,	718 67	
Note due Reuben Barnes, and interest,	219 00	
Note due Chas H. Fitts, and interest,	547 49	
Outstanding orders drawn current year, 1875,	152 16	
Balance in favor of the town March 1, 1876,	128 06	
		$1,774 88

ASSETS.

Cash deposited in the Manchester Savings Bank, ...	$1,227 38	
Interest due on money deposited, .	28 28	
Due from Collector's balance of his Tax list, 1875, ...	438 89	
Due from County for support of paupers,	62 97	
Cash on hand March 1, 1876, . .	17 38	
		$1,774 88

M. R. NICHOLS,
Town Treasurer.

MERRIMACK, March 1, 1876.

We have examined the foregoing report and find it correctly cast and properly vouched.

HORACE WILSON,
F. A. GORDON,
Auditors.

MERRIMACK, March 1, 1876.

SCHOOL REPORT.

DISTICT NO. 1.

JOHN L. REED, *Agent.*

This school has been under the instruction of Miss Sarah E. Lawrence another year, and has made remarkably good improvement.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

ANDREW SAVAGE, *Agent.*

Teacher, Addie F. Noyes. Both terms of this school were well conducted. There appeared on the part of the scholars a real desire to improve. The progress made is truly gratifying, showing that the efforts of both teacher and scholars have been amply rewarded.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

AARON MEANS, *Agent.*

Teacher, Mary A. D. Allison. Though some of the larger scholars have left the school, it yet appears well. It has been under the care of the same teacher for three successive years. Reading and Analysis have received special attention, and the classes in these branches bear testimony to the superiority of their instruction.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

DAVID T. JONES, *Agent.*

The Spring term was taught by Miss Emma T. Drew, the Fall term by Miss Tena D. Spalding, and the examination was highly creditable. The Winter term is now in session, Mr. James T. Jones, teacher.

DISTRICT NO. 5.

CHARLES W. DUTTON, *Agent.*

The school in this district has sustained itself very well during both terms, with Miss Anna L. Colburn, teacher.

DISTRICT NO. 6.

HERMON S. FIELDS, *Agent.*

Miss Delia M. Smith was retained as teacher, and the examination at the close of each term gave evidence of thorough, correct instruction, and good improvement in all the branches taught. A fall private term was taught by Miss Flora Hunt, with good success.

DISTRICT NO. 7.

JAMES FOSDICK, JR., *Agent,*

Teacher, L. Anna Wilkins. Order, so essential in a schoolroom, was at once established and steadily maintained. While we commend this school for its progress in all branches pursued, special praise is due for its excellence in Physical Geography and its thoroughness in Arithmetic.

DISTRICT NO. 8.

HENRY T. I. BLOOD, *Agent.*

Teacher, M. Cecilia Connor. Though the scholars here are few, they have not been idle. The register shows perfect deportment, with but very little tardiness or absence. Thorough instruction has been well improved. Some new interest has been gained by admitting some larger scholars from District No. 2,—a plan worthy of being repeated and likewise imitated where schools are small.

DISTRICT NO. 9.

HENRY F. HERRICK, *Agent.*

Teacher, Mrs. Louise M. Jones. This school also has had its share of prosperity. No disturbance has marred its progress. Harmony, order and a diligent attention to study have resulted in a pleasant and profitable school.

DISTRICT NO. 10.

SANFORD S. ROBY, *Agent.*

Teacher, Minnie C. Wilkins. Our visits to this school have been no less pleasant than those of former years. Under efficient instruction, the scholars have well sustained their character for order, quietness and studious habits, which traits have borne their appropriate fruits.

DISTRICT NO. 11.

JOHN L. BOWERS, *Agent.*

Miss Lucy A. Bowers, teacher during the year, and good progress was made in all their studies, and the closing examination quite satisfactory.

DISTRICT NO. 12.

WILLIAM H. PATTERSON, *Agent.*

The parents in this district manifest much interest in the school, and are careful to secure good teachers, and the result is what we might anticipate,—very good improvement,—under the charge of Miss J. Isadore Richardson.

REMARKS.

In presenting their annual report your Committee take pleasure in not having to record any disturbance in any of the schools in town during the year.

If we should attempt to distinguish which among them had been the most quiet and orderly, and which had made the best improvement, it would be difficult to make the selection. We believe this year has been one of more than common success. There has been a more punctual attendance than we have generally been able to report, and the teachers are all deserving of much praise for the care and interest they have manifested for those placed under their instructions.

And we tender our thanks to the Prudential Committees for their efforts and good judgment in the selection of their teachers, and much of the good resulting may be passed to their credit.

Although this is the closing year of our nation's first century, we have passed some way into the second century of our town.

In tracing the gradual and steady developement of our schools since the first money was raised for their support, we find food for many pleasing reflections.

We will here give a copy of the town record, just as it stands recorded, for the first money raised for the suppport of schools: "for ye year 1754 votes at ye annual meeting March 11, 1754. * * * * * * voted to Rais one Hundred Pounds old tenor to have Preaching this Present year and Likewise voted to Rais Eighty Pounds old tenor to have a school in four parts of the Town ye one quarter of the Eighty Pounds is to be school[d] at the houes of John Thomas and one quarter at Robert Usher and one quarter where John Usher now lives on Mr. Gordins farm and one quarter at Sam'l Spauldings all in said town.

(Signed) PHINS UNDERWOOD,
Town Clerk.

It was proposed in 1777 to district the town, but we find no record of district lines for many years after. During the Revolution little attention was given to schools, and for several years no money was raised for school purposes.

Do we realize the hardships and privations of those days, as compared with the advantages of the present year, when a school-house may be seen from many a window? Do we prize our privileges as our forefathers appreciated theirs when they were willing to travel some four or five miles to school?

Considering our present advantages over the past, our scholars may well take courage, and press forward to higher and nobler attainments in the arts and sciences.

We regret that other duties prevented holding our annual exhibition in the month of June, as was designed. In the fall and winter we found but a portion of the schools in session, at any one time, and therefore thought best to defer the meeting till some more promising season, and would now suggest the third Wednesday of June next as a suitable time for said purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

M. P. NICHOLS,
J. L. SPALDING,
School Committee.

Feb. 26th, 1876.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

No. of Districts.	TERMS.	Length of school, in weeks.	Wages of teacher per month, including board.	Whole number of scholars.	Average attendance.	Instances of tardiness.	Number not absent ½ day.	Number of visits by citizens.	Amount of money appropriated for the year.
1	Summer	8	$24 00	7	6.37	4	2	5	$128 05
	Winter	12	24 00	6	5.71	8	4	8	
2	Summer	9	21 00	15	11.66	2	5	27	104 08
	Winter	8	23 00	16	15.38	2	9	12	
3	Summer	11	36 00	27	19.29	60	1	15	327 33
	Fall	11	36 00	25	21	53	0	21	
	Winter	12	36 00	20	15.92	20	2	11	
4	Summer	9	22 00	13	11	34	2	17	199 82
	Winter	12	28 00	14	10	61	2	23	
5	Summer	7	24 00	21	15.37	10	0	6	99 82
	Winter	9	24 00	17	15.88	36	3	8	
6	Summer	8	34 00	17	14.08	10	6	12	101 08
	Winter	10½	34 00	23	22.05	34	13	28	
7	Summer	9	22 00	22	20	49	7	16	130 93
	Winter	12	27 00	24	18	66	3	6	
8	Summer	9	24 00	5	4.98	4	4	2	117 74
	Winter	9	24 00	7	5.93	0	0	8	
9	Summer	9	28 00	33	28	22	1	18	139 84
	Winter	9	28 00	25	20	45	5	8	
10	Summer	6	26 00	2	2	0	2		48 51
	Winter	7	26 00	2	2	0	2		
11	Summer	9	30 00	6	5.77	8	4	2	132 27
	Winter	15	32 00	8	7.16	12	0	3	
12	Summer	8	29 00	13	11.25	6	5	17	65 81
	Winter	8	29 00	15	13.83	2	6	14	

* Union District. Total.....$1,595 68

Manchester Daily Union

AND

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(WEEKLY,)

Every Variety of Job Printing,

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